

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1 . (Currently Amended) A select system for an automatic transmission having a select lever switching over between a mechanical automatic mode and an electrical manual mode, comprising:

[[an]] a single engaging protrusion provided to said select lever and extended for a predetermined distance to one side; and

a rotatable linkage member having an engaging groove for inserting said engaging protrusion therein, wherein

when said select lever is in the automatic mode, said linkage member is rotatable with a shifting movement of said select lever by an engagement between said engaging protrusion and a part of said engaging groove so as to achieve mechanical transmission control of said automatic transmission, and

when said select lever is in the manual mode, said engaging protrusion restricts an accidental rotation of the linkage member so as to avoid the mechanical transmission control of the automatic transmission, while said engaging protrusion disengages from the part of said engaging groove.

2. (Currently Amended) The select system for an automatic transmission according to claim 1, wherein said engaging groove has a substantially convex shape in a side view of said automatic transmission protruded upwardly, said engaging groove comprising: [[with]]

a hollow square upper groove having an open bottom; and

a hollow rectangular lower groove continuous with the upper groove,

wherein said engaging protrusion fits in said upper groove when said select lever is in the automatic mode.

3 . (Currently Amended) The select system for an automatic transmission according to claim 2, wherein said engaging protrusion has a substantially convex shape in a side view of said automatic transmission with a rectangular lower protrusion extending in a front-to-back direction and a square upper protrusion protruded upwardly from the lower protrusion, wherein said upper protrusion is movable within a predetermined distance of said upper groove larger than a switching stroke of the manual mode when said select lever is in the manual mode.

4. (Currently Amended) The select system for an automatic transmission according to claim 2, wherein said engaging protrusion has a substantially convex shape in a side view of said automatic transmission with a rectangular lower protrusion extending in a front-to-back direction and a square upper protrusion protruded upwardly from the lower protrusion, wherein said linkage member is movable relative to said engaging protrusion within a predetermined distance smaller than a moving stroke of said linkage member necessary to achieve the mechanical transmission control of said automatic transmission when said select lever is in the manual mode.